

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-18 and 20-29 are pending in the application. The claims are subject to a restriction requirement and an election requirement as set forth in the Office Action mailed on April 17, 2007.

Applicants hereby elect Group I (Claims 1 and 3-18) with traverse.

Such election is made with traverse in that claims 20-29, belonging to Group II, each depend from claim 18 either directly or indirectly. Consequently, claims 20-29 inherently include all of the features and limitations of claim 18. Under PCT Rule 13.2, if claims 20-29 share the same or corresponding features as claim 18 (as they undoubtedly do as a result of depending from claim 18), then the claims all relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

Consequently, applicants respectfully request that claims 20-29 (Group II) be examined together with claims 1 and 3-18 (Group I).

Further, applicants elect Species A (Fig. 1) without traverse. Claims 1, 4-7, 18, 20, and 21 are considered readable on the elected species.

Applicants consider claims 1 and 18 to be generic.

Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

RENNER, OTTO, BOISSELLE & SKLAR, LLP

/Mark D. Saralino/

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Reg. No. 34,243

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